

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KHARTO 03088 121725Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
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R 120711Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7791
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
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AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USICA WASHDC

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DEPT PASS OAU COLLECTIVE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PORG, OAU, XA
SUBJ: OAU COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, DAYS III AND IV: LASSITUDE
SETS IN

REF: KHARTOUM 3043 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY. COUNCIL OF MINISTERS (COM) HEARD TWO REPORTS BY
OAU SECGEN ETEKI AND BEGAN DELIBERATIONS ON DECOLONIZATION
AND LIBERATION COMMITTEE REPORTS. ETEKI REPORTEDLY NOTED
UN SECURITY COUNCIL ACCEPTANCE OF ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSALS
ON ZIMBABWE QUESTION WAS AN ACCOMPLISHMENT FOR OAU. TEDIOUS
BUSINESS OF DRAFTING RESOLUTIONS GENERAL ENOUGH TO BE
ACCEPTABLE TO HETEROGENEOUS COM HAS DIFFUSED CONTROVERSY
FOR MOMENT AND GIVEN COM ATMOSPHERE OF NORMAL INTERNATIONAL
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CONFERENCE. END SUMMARY

1. ONLY SKETCHY DETAILS OF OAU SECGEN ETEKI'S REPORTS
PRESENTED TO CONFERENCE JULY 9 ON A) OAU ACTIVITIES
PAST 4 YEARS AND B) OAU ACTIVITIES SINCE FEBRUARY 1978
COUNCIL OF MINISTERS HAVE BECOM AVAILABLE. FIRST
REPORT APPARENTLY COVERED POLITICAL, ADMINISTRATIVE,

TECHNICAL, ECONOMIC AND DECOLONIZATION MATTERS. ETEKI CHARACTERIZED PAST FOUR YEARS AS "MOST TURBULENT IN HISTORY OF AFRICA AND THE OAU." HE TOUCHED BRIEFLY ON ACCESSION OF INDEPENDENT STATES TO OAU, ZIMBABWE, NAMIBIA, SOUTH AFRICA AND OAU MEDIATION EFFORTS BETWEEN SOME CONFLICTING AFRICAN STATES. (IT IS BELIEVED THAT REPORT DID NOT DETAIL SUBSTANCE OF MEDIATION EFFORTS, BUT RATHER MENTIONED THAT THEY HAVE OCCURRED.) NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER WAS TREATED SIMILARLY IN REPORT. ONE SOURCE CLAIMS THAT AFRO-ARAB COOPERATION WAS GIVEN SPECIAL CONSIDERATION, EMPHASIZING VARIOUS FINANCIAL AND MATERIAL ASSISTANCE OFFERED BY ARAB STATES THROUGH VARIOUS INSTITUTIONS.

2. DURING HIS SECOND REPORT ON OAU ACTIVITIES FROM FEBRUARY - JULY 1978, ETEKI REPORTEDLY CLAIMED THAT "UN SECURITY COUNCIL ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION APPROVING ANGLO-AMERICAN PLAN FOR SETTLEMENT OF ZIMBABWE QUESTION" WAS AN OAU ACCOMPLISHMENT. HE ALSO LISTED ASSISTANCE TO FRONT-LINE STATES, INTERNATIONAL ANTI-APARTHEID YEAR, CONDEMNATION OF SOUTH AFRICA AGGRESSION AGAINST ANGOLA AND UN EXTRAORDINARY SESSION ON NAMIBIA AS OTHER OAU ACHIEVEMENTS PAST 5 MONTHS. ETEKI ALSO REPORTED ON FAMILIAR ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND COOPERATION MATTERS.

3. DURING EVENING JULY 9 DRAFTING COMMITTEES BEGAN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO PROCEED WITH AGENDA ITEMS. DECOLONIZATION REPORT WAS PRESENTED TO PLENARY SESSION MORNING JULY 10 AS WAS LIBERATION COMMITTEE (ALC) REPORT. BY END OF JULY 10 EVENING SESSION, PLENARY STILL HAD NOT COMPLETED DISCUSSION OF ALC REPORT. AS YET, DETAILS HAVE NOT BECOME AVAILABLE. FOLLOWING EVENING SESSION, OAU SPOESMAN ONU RESUMED ORAL PRESS BRIEFINGS, BUT HAD LITTLE OF SUBSTANCE TO REVEAL AND INSTEAD USED OCCASION TO SCOLD PRESS. ONU DID SAY THAT PRESS RELEASE WOULD BE ISSUED AFTER DEBATE ON ALC REPORT IS CONCLUDED.

4. PACE OF CONFERENCE IS EXTREMELY SLOW AND RISKS SPILLING OVER INTO TWO REST DAYS SCHEDULED BEFORE HEADS OF STATE SUMMIT. NOW THAT CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES FACING OAU HAVE BEEN SUBMERGED BY MUNDANE COMMITTEE WORK DRAFTING MAINLY RHETORICAL RESOLUTIONS ON STANDARD OAU SUBJECTS, COM MAY HOPE TO AVOID POLARIZATION EVIDENT FIRST TWO DAYS AND DETER ACRIMONY TO HEADS OF STATE. DELEGATES APPEAR TO BE AVOIDING THE PRESS IN GENERAL AND MAY BE WARY, AFTER INITIAL OPEN SESSIONS OF SCRUTINY BEING DEVOTED TO COM BY PRESS.

5. COMORO ISLANDS DELEGATES ARE REMAINING IN KHARTOUM
UNTIL THEIR HEAD OF STATE ARRIVES AND ISSUE IS RAISED
AT SUMMIT. MAURITANIAN FONMIN MOUKNASS HAS APPARENTLY
GONE TO PARIS TO AWAIT INSTRUCTIONS FROM HIS NEW
GOVERNMENT. (MAURITANIAN COUP WAS MOST EXCITING NEWS
AT OAU YESTERDAY.) ETHIOPIAN FONMIN FELEKE REPORTEDLY
SAID THAT MENGISTU WILL ATTEND SUMMIT. SUDANESE PRESS
HAS REPORTED THAT SOMALIA'S SIAD BARRE WILL ALSO ATTEND.
BERGUS

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED.

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